

Considerations for disabled players

Introduction

This document outlines some additional considerations to take into account when catering for disabled players. It should be read in conjunction with the Return to Play guidance for clubs, coaches and those organising sessions and the resource for engaging vulnerable groups.

Considerations for session organiser

As the session organiser, it is important that you gather information about the disabled players within your session to understand their needs and how you can best support them within your session:

- What are the player's needs and their expectations regarding support?
- What measures are in place between the player and their carer / parent that you need to be aware of?
- How can this be managed by the club / coach / session organiser?
- What support is required from their carer / parent?
- Players with learning disability – Understanding of social distancing and club needs to communicate this effectively/ reinforce Return to Play guidelines. Additional advice is available from [Mencap](#)

To ensure disabled players can access your session safely, you will need to understand facility specific guidance as stipulated by the leisure operator. As the session organiser, it is your responsibility to communicate this to the disabled player:

- Access to facility and within facility paying particular attention to entry and exit touch points
- Are the accessible toilets open?
- Is a radar key required to access the accessible toilets? If so, it is recommended that disabled players will need to bring their own with them to eliminate sharing of the facility radar key

Guidance surrounding equipment and managing shuttles is outlined in Badminton England's Return to Play guidance – please adhere to this guidance. Disability specific considerations include:

- If your session has sports wheelchairs and you allow players to borrow them, allocate one sports wheelchair per player and this is not shared with other players.

Each classification has different court boundaries, which may need to be slightly adapted to ensure social distancing on court and across the sports hall, whilst still making play relevant for each classification. Adaptations should adhere to Badminton England's Return to Play guidance. Classification specific court boundaries are highlighted below:

- **Wheelchair**
 - Singles – Half court with forecourt out and side and back tramlines in – adaptations needed
 - Doubles – Forecourt out and side and back tramlines in – adaptations needed
- **Standing**
 - (SL3) Singles – full court, same as non-disabled – adaptations needed
 - (SL4 / SU5) Singles – half court with forecourt / side / back tramlines in – adaptations needed
- **Short stature**
 - Singles and doubles – full court, same as non-disabled – adaptations needed
- **Learning disability**
 - Singles and doubles – full court, same as non-disabled – adaptations needed

Whilst off court, ensure social distancing for wheelchair players with regards to accessibility behind and between courts whilst court is being played on.

Pick up/drop off by carer/parent – clearly outline the measures the Club has put in place and communicate these to both the disabled player and carer/parent

Further support and guidance

Keep checking www.badmintonengland.co.uk for the latest guidance and supporting tools and information

Additional advice is available from [Activity Alliance](#)